

MI-HUNT

MI-HUNT makes it easier than ever to plan your next hunting trip.

This interactive, web-based application lets hunters find all public lands open to hunting.

The program features information on topography and vegetation. To get started, go to <http://mcgiweb5.mcgi.state.mi.us/mi-hunt/>.

I am pleased to see this online resource in place. Several years ago, the Senate advanced this concept in bills aimed at preserving Michigan's hunting heritage.



STATE SENATOR

Roger Kahn, M.D.

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2010

HUNTING UPDATE



ROGER
KAHN, M.D.
OUR STATE SENATOR

Dear Friend:

As the days get shorter and fall leaves rustle underfoot, Michigan's hunting heritage takes front and center.

With an abundance of game animals and birds, Michigan is just the place to enjoy this great outdoor tradition. Over one quarter of the state is open to hunting, and you are never more than 20 minutes from a public hunting area.

Before you head out, I want to send along a report including a legislative update, safety tips, helpful resources and more. I hope you find it informative.

It is my honor to represent you in the Michigan Senate and I will continue to work hard to protect your hunting and sporting rights. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or concerns - I look forward to hearing from you.

In the meantime, best wishes for a safe and successful hunting season!

Sincerely,

Roger Kahn, M.D., State Senator
32nd District



"Over one quarter of the state is open to hunting, and you are never more than 20 minutes from a public hunting area." — Senator Roger Kahn, M.D.

2010 HUNTING UPDATE

STATE SENATOR 32nd District

Roger Kahn, M.D.

DNRE Resource Guide

Wildlife Division.....517.373.1263
Fisheries517.373.1280
Parks & Recreation517.373.9900
Forest Management.....517.373.1275
Law Enforcement517.373.1230
Report All Poaching ...1.800.292.7800

Note: Phone numbers are subject to change

KAHN LAUDS 2009 SAFETY RECORD

I am pleased to report that the 2009 firearm deer season was the safest on record in Michigan with no fatalities.

In fact, only one hunting fatality was reported the entire 2009 hunting season (during the spring turkey season) although the DNRE recorded 12 hunting-related accidents.

This season, let's set a new safety benchmark by following the basic rules of firearm safety:

- Always have complete control of your firearm.
- Always treat your firearm as if it was loaded.
- Before firing, know your target and what is beyond.
- Be sure the gun is safe to operate and use only the correct ammunition.
- Unload your firearm when not in use; especially before putting it in your vehicle or camp.
- Point your firearm only at what you intend to shoot.
- Do not run, jump or climb with a loaded firearm.
- And, NEVER mix hunting and alcohol.



KAHN SUPPORTS MOOSE HUNTING

From quail to bear, hunting in Michigan has something for just about everyone. Legislation unanimously passed by the Senate this spring would add a new hunting opportunity – the 1,000 pound moose.

Senate Bill 1013 would allow a limited harvest of moose bulls under a lottery system similar to the one for elk and bear hunting.

Michigan has a stable population of about 500-600 moose (not including the moose on Isle Royale). Officials say the moose population is large enough to allow a very limited hunt without harming the animals' survival here.

It's easy to see that this big game animal would generate considerable interest, helping attract both new and existing sportsmen. Last year, 57,285 hunters applied for the black bear hunt, and 38,826 hunters applied for the elk hunt. I expect a moose hunt would have similar appeal.

The bill has been sent to the House for consideration.



KAHN COMMENTS ON RIGHT-TO-BEAR-ARMS RULING

I applaud the recent U.S. Supreme Court 5-to-4 decision upholding the Second Amendment.

The Supreme Court took a stand and confirmed that the Second Amendment does indeed extend to individuals. Gun owners in Chicago and the rest of the country are assured of their Second Amendment rights as outlined in the Constitution and now confirmed by our courts.

The high court's verdict in McDonald v. City of Chicago revolved around the city's 1982 handgun ban.

Previously I sponsored Senate Resolution 134 urging the U.S. Supreme Court to clarify that the right to bear arms applies to individuals. SR 134 was approved and adopted by the Michigan Senate earlier this year.

Americans everywhere should have the same freedom to protect themselves and their loved ones from harm. Firearms are also a part of recreational and sporting activities enjoyed throughout Michigan.

COUGAR SIGHTING

Earlier this summer, an elusive predator on the prowl in the Upper Peninsula was captured – on film!

The recent trail camera photo of a cougar in Menominee County is the latest in a series of five track and two photo verifications of cougars in Delta, Chippewa, Marquette, Schoolcraft and now Menominee counties.

Also known as mountain lions, these wild cats originally were native to Michigan but the last known cougar taken in Michigan was killed near Newberry in 1906.

To learn more about cougars and how to identify their tracks, go online to www.michigan.gov/dnrcougars.



DEER HUNTING UPDATE

A LOOK AT LAST YEAR

Was it the weather, the economy, the deer population or something else?

Reversing a recent trend, the number of people hunting deer in 2009 was down 1.1 percent to 686,371 hunters. Hunters harvested just over 436,000 deer, down 44,540 from 2008 and an overall decrease of nearly 10 percent from the previous year. Statewide, 43 percent of hunters harvested a deer; about 15 percent harvested two or more deer.



A LOOK AHEAD – 2010 SEASONS

- **EARLY FIREARM SEASON:** (antlerless deer on private land only in Open DMUs) Sept. 16-20
- **YOUTH AND 100 PERCENT DISABLED VETERANS DEER HUNT:** Sept. 25-26
- **SPECIAL DISABLED FIREARM HUNT:** Oct. 14-17
- **ARCHERY SEASON:** Oct. 1-Nov. 14 and Dec. 1-Jan. 1
- **REGULAR FIREARM SEASON:** Nov. 15-30
- **MUZZLELOADING SEASON:**

Zone 1 (UP): 10 days starting 1st Friday in December. Dec. 3-12

Zone 2 (NLP): 10 days starting 2nd Friday in December. Dec. 10-19

Zone 3 (SLP): 17 days starting 1st Friday in December. Dec. 3-19

- **LATE FIREARM SEASON:** (antlerless deer on private land only in Open DMUs) Dec. 20-Jan. 1

** consult the 2010 Hunting Guide for restrictions*

KAHN PROMOTES FIREARM TRANSPORT BILL

Bills to help ensure that all Michigan gun owners are able to lawfully store firearms in their locked and privately owned vehicles while in an employer's parking lot continue to be a top priority for me.

I have sponsored bipartisan, bicameral measures to protect the rights of gun owners storing firearms in their vehicles, as long as all current storage laws are being followed. The proposed laws would not apply to company cars and would not alter Michigan's concealed pistol law.

Concealed pistol license holders often face circumstances where they cannot be protected on their way to or from work because they have nowhere to store their gun once there.

Hunters are expected to benefit from the convenience of being able to leave to go hunting directly from work rather than having to return home to pick up their firearms.

According to the National Rifle Association, 48 states, including Michigan, allow people to carry firearms in their vehicles for personal protection or sporting activities.

SPORTSMEN CAN CALL IT IN

Why not enjoy another great outdoor sport while on your hunting trip? Use your web-enabled phone to buy a 24-hour Michigan fishing license anywhere, anytime!

Sportsmen can purchase the 24-hour, all species fishing license with a credit or debit card for \$7 at <http://mobile.mi.gov/fish>.

Anglers choose the date and time for their license to begin, enter their Michigan driver's license or state ID number, make a payment and receive a confirmation number. For those "dialing in" from the field, there's no need to print anything or even remember the confirmation number!

Out-of-state anglers and those wanting to buy other types of licenses still need to visit a local retailer or buy the license online at www.mdnr-elicense.com.